



"St. Patrick's Day is an enchanted time, a day to begin transforming winter's dream into summer's magic" - Adrienne Cook

Riverwatch News: Greetings Riverwatchers!

I hope all of you are enjoying the weather (long sigh). My hope is that the thunderstorms last night is an indication that spring is just around the corner and we can bid that polar vortex goodbye. I don't know about the rest of you, but I am ready for some quality time outside. Don't get me wrong, we have done some sledding, skiing, and snowman building. However, I want some outside time when my toes do not freeze. With that said, we have started scheduling workshops for the 2014 season. We will continue to add dates as the weather gets warmer, but you can see our initial offering at, www.idem.IN.gov/riverwatch/2364.htm.

As we look forward to getting out and monitoring, we must also look forward to submitting our data. You have the power and the information to make the Hoosier Riverwatch database a resource for all of the state. The database is publically searchable but only certified monitors may enter data. (continued on page 7)

March / April 2014

In this Issue:

- Common Data Errors
- Equipment Requests
- Earth Day Presentations
- Photo Contest
- WaterAlert
- 2014 Workshop Schedule

Riverwatch Events:

*Macroinvertebrate
Workshop:
April 15th*

*E.Coli Workshop:
June 19th*

Hoosier
Riverwatch is
sponsored by





Equipment Packages for Water Monitoring

Hoosier Riverwatch will open applications for Water Quality Monitoring Equipment packages beginning March 15, 2014. HRW provides one package of equipment, along with chemical and biological tests valued at more than \$400 to eligible organizations. After a period of six (6) years, an eligible organization may reapply for equipment.

Equipment recipients must **meet the following criteria**:

- Be affiliated with a non-profit organization, school, or government agency. Does not have to be a 501 (c) (3), but should have Articles of Incorporation.
- Agree to the Cooperative Agreement including:
 - Attend a Basic Training Workshop (Must be registered for a workshop upon submission of application).
 - Monitor and submit data online at least four times per year for two years (*Total of eight data sets by December 31, 2016*).
- Return the completed *Equipment Application* no later than **September 15, 2014**.

After March 15th, visit our website at: www.idem.IN.gov/riverwatch/2334.htm or contact Riverwatch at riverwatch@idem.IN.gov for your application.



Earth Day School Presentations

In observance of Earth Day, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is offering presentations to Hoosier classrooms this spring. The in-person presentations will provide students with examples of environmental careers while teaching them about our environment.

Presentations are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Each school may request up to four presentations (30-50 minutes each). Please allow time in-between presentations to set up for the next class. *Grades Kindergarten through 6 are eligible for presentations.* See the link to the request form below for more information.

Make your reservations by mailing, faxing or emailing the [form](#) to:

IDEM – Office of Planning and Assessment, 100 N. Senate Ave., IGCN 1316, Indianapolis, IN 46204 or fax to (317) 233-5970 or email it to education@idem.IN.gov by March 3.

[Earth Day State Form 2014.docx](#)

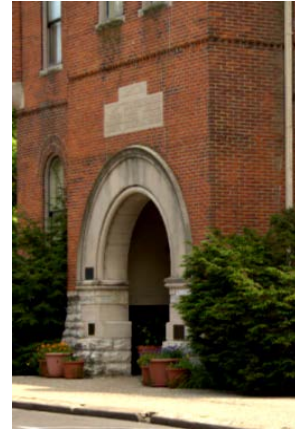
Historic Preservation Month photo contest

The Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA) is celebrating the tenth anniversary of our Historic Preservation Month photo contest. Help us celebrate this milestone by making this the biggest contest yet. Our current record is 187 photos—we'd love to break it. What can you do? The next time you're sitting around wondering what to do during some free time, go grab your camera and take some pictures of your favorite historic resource—building, bridge, cemetery, landscape. It doesn't matter as long as it is at least 50 years old and in Indiana. The basic requirements are:

- Images must be 8x10 prints, mounted or matted on or with a white 11x14 matte board,
- The registration form must be attached to each photo; and,
- Limit of three (3) photos per person.

For a complete list of guidelines and the registration form, go to www.IN.gov/dnr/historic/3994.htm.

Photos must be submitted by April 4, 2014.



USGS - WaterAlert

The U.S. Geological Survey WaterAlert service sends e-mail or text (SMS) messages when [certain parameters](#), as measured by a USGS real-time data-collection station, exceed user-definable thresholds. The development and maintenance of the WaterAlert system is supported by the USGS and its partners, including numerous federal, state, and local agencies.

Real-time data from USGS gauges are transmitted via satellite or other telemetry to USGS offices at various intervals; in most cases, once every hour. Emergency transmissions, such as during floods, may be more frequent. *Notifications will be based on the data received at these site-dependent intervals.*

Go to <http://maps.waterdata.usgs.gov/mapper/wateralert/> to sign up.



Hoosier Riverwatch Workshop Schedule

Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring

"Basic" Training introduces citizens and educators to water quality monitoring utilizing hands-on habitat, chemical, and biological assessment methods. The sessions are held both inside and outdoors. Any interested adult is welcome to attend, and once certified, may teach students how to monitor.

Although Volunteer Stream Monitoring training workshops are free, you must contact the local host in advance to register.

Most workshops are held from **8:30 am - 4:30 pm** unless noted.

Saturday, April 19

Indianapolis - Holliday Park (9:00 am - 4:30 pm)
To register, contact John Ulmer at watersheds@tds.net or (317) 769-3500.

Friday, May 2

Kokomo - Kirkendall Nature Center at Jackson Morrow Park (9:00 am - 4:00 pm)
To register, contact Sarah Brichford at sarah.brichford@co.howard.in.us or (765) 456-2217.

Saturday, May 3

South Bend - St. Patrick's County Park
To register, contact the park office at (574) 654-3155.

Saturday, May 17

Elkhart - Elkhart Conservation Club (Fly Tiers Cabin)
To register, contact Nancy Brown at nancy.brown@in.nacdnet.net or (574) 533-4383, x 3.

Friday, May 23

Peru - Peru Wastewater Treatment Plant
To register, contact Jamin Beisiegel at perustormwater@gmail.com or (765) 473-7651.

Credits approved-7 technical drinking water operator and/or 2 technical & 5 general wastewater operator.

Wednesday, May 28

Peru - Peru Wastewater Treatment Plant
To register, contact Jamin Beisiegel at perustormwater@gmail.com or (765) 473-7651.

Credits approved-7 technical drinking water operator and/or 2 technical & 5 general wastewater operator.

Saturday, May 31

Evansville - Wesselman Nature Center (9:00 am CST - 4:00 pm CST)
To register, contact Gena Garret at ggarrett@wesselmannaturesociety.org or (812) 479-0771 x 102.

Friday, June 13

Bloomington - Twin Lakes Recreation Center
To register, contact Hoosier Riverwatch at Riverwatch@idem.in.gov or (317) 308-3392.

Saturday, June 21

Zionsville - Zionsville Town Hall (9:00 am-4:30 pm)
To register, contact John Ulmer at watersheds@tds.net or (317) 769-3500.

Thursday, July 10

Battle Ground - Brier Environmental Education Center, Tippecanoe Battlefield
To register, contact Mary Cutler at mcut@msn.com or (765) 567-2993. This workshop is part of the GLOBE program.

Thursday, July 17.

Battle Ground - Brier Environmental Education Center, Tippecanoe Battlefield
To register, contact Mary Cutler at mcut@msn.com or (765) 567-2993.

Saturday, August 2

Frankfort - Camp George C. Cullom
To register, contact Leah Harden at leah.harden@in.nacdnet.net or (765) 659-1223 x3.

Saturday, September 6

Indianapolis - Holliday Park (9:00 am-4:30 pm)
To register, contact John Ulmer at watersheds@tds.net or (317) 769-3500.

Macroinvertebrate Workshop

Due to popular demand, we are hosting another macroinvertebrate workshop scheduled for April 15. This workshop will be held at the IDEM-Shadeland office, located at 2525 N Shadeland Avenue, Suite 100, Indianapolis, IN 46219. This hands-on special topic workshop includes information about macroinvertebrates in Indiana as well as sampling and identification methods. Participants will improve their ability to identify macros by obtaining assistance from Indiana Department of Environmental Management's (IDEM) biologists using lab techniques. The goal is to develop participant knowledge of macroinvertebrate ecology and identification skills.

Tentative Agenda:

- Overview of IDEM methodology
- Information on Aquatic Life Use and biological criteria
- Varieties of macroinvertebrates found in Indiana
- Identification techniques.
- Support identifying your local sample to family level.

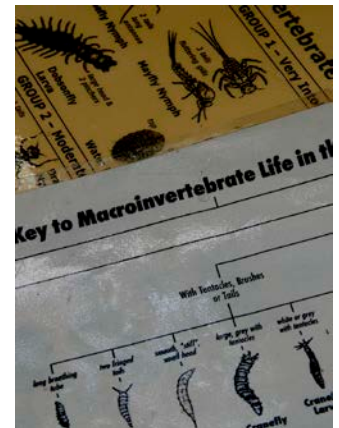
This workshop is open to certified Riverwatch volunteer monitors. There is no cost to attend the workshop, but you need to pre-register by contacting Hoosier Riverwatch at riverwatch@idem.IN.gov or (317) 308-3392. Please bring a macro sample from your local waterbody to identify in the lab.

Must have attended a Riverwatch workshop to register for the macro workshop.

Tuesday , April 15

Indianapolis - IDEM Shadeland Office (9:00 am – 3:00 pm)

To register, contact Hoosier Riverwatch at riverwatch@idem.in.gov or (317) 308-3392.



E. coli Workshops

If you have already attended a Riverwatch Basic Training but would like more information on E. coli, attend this advanced workshop.

Thursday, June 19

Syracuse, IN - Wawasee Area Conservancy Foundation's Education Center (6:30 pm - 8:30 pm)

To register, contact Wendi Tomasik at the Tippecanoe Watershed Foundation at twf-wendi@kconline.com or (574) 834-3242.

Saturday, September 20

Zionsville, IN - Zion Nature Center (9:00 am-12:00 pm)

To register, contact John Ulmer at watersheds@tds.net or (317) 769-3500.





**Indiana Department of
Environmental Management**
Office of Water Quality
Watershed Assessment
and Planning Branch

100 North Senate Avenue,
MC 65-40 - 2 Shadeland
Indianapolis, Indiana
46204-2251

PHONE:
(317) 308-3392

E-MAIL:
riverwatch@idem.IN.gov



[CLICK HERE to
subscribe](#)

or go to:

www.idem.IN.gov



Greetings... (continued from the cover)

Your data combined to provide links to tell stories about what is going on upstream and downstream, but the only way to accomplish that is by entering your data. With that said, Jessica who looks at the data from time to time to ensure it is of the highest quality has found there a few common errors out there.

These include:

- Typos
- Forgetting to convert from transparency (cm) to turbidity (NTU)
- Misunderstanding of *E. Coli* calculations
- Submitting data for a sampling multiple times, because you are unsure if it sent the first time.
- Attempting to correct errors made in data submission.

Hang in there everyone, and *Happy Spring*.

- Lisa

Hoosier Riverwatch Mission:

The mission of Hoosier Riverwatch is to involve the citizens of Indiana in becoming active stewards of Indiana's water resources through watershed education and clean-up activities. Hoosier Riverwatch is sponsored by the **Indiana Department of Environmental Management's Office of Water Quality**.

For more information, go to www.idem.IN.gov/riverwatch .

